



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Raised Bill No. 83

LCO No. 756



Referred to Committee on AGING

Introduced by:
(AGE)

***AN ACT REDUCING PARTICIPANT COSTS AND EXPANDING
ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CONNECTICUT HOME-CARE PROGRAM FOR
THE ELDERLY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 17b-342 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2020*):

4 (i) (1) [On and after July 1, 2015, the] The Commissioner of Social
5 Services shall, within available appropriations, administer a state-
6 funded portion of the program for persons (A) who are sixty-five years
7 of age and older; (B) who are inappropriately institutionalized or at risk
8 of inappropriate institutionalization; (C) whose income is less than or
9 equal to the amount allowed under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of
10 this section; and (D) whose assets, if single, do not exceed [one hundred
11 fifty per cent of the federal minimum community spouse protected
12 amount pursuant to 42 USC 1396r-5(f)(2) or, if married, the couple's
13 assets do not exceed two hundred per cent of said community spouse
14 protected amount] forty-two thousand dollars, or, if a married couple,

15 sixty-five thousand dollars. For program applications received by the
 16 Department of Social Services for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016,
 17 and June 30, 2017, only persons who require the level of care provided
 18 in a nursing home shall be eligible for the state-funded portion of the
 19 program, except for persons residing in affordable housing under the
 20 assisted living demonstration project established pursuant to section
 21 17b-347e who are otherwise eligible in accordance with this section.

22 (2) Except for persons residing in affordable housing under the
 23 assisted living demonstration project established pursuant to section
 24 17b-347e, as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, any person
 25 whose income is at or below two hundred per cent of the federal poverty
 26 level and who is ineligible for Medicaid shall contribute [nine] seven per
 27 cent of the cost of his or her care. Any person whose income exceeds two
 28 hundred per cent of the federal poverty level shall contribute [nine]
 29 seven per cent of the cost of his or her care in addition to the amount of
 30 applied income determined in accordance with the methodology
 31 established by the Department of Social Services for recipients of
 32 medical assistance. Any person who does not contribute to the cost of
 33 care in accordance with this subdivision shall be ineligible to receive
 34 services under this subsection. Notwithstanding any provision of
 35 sections 17b-60 and 17b-61, the department shall not be required to
 36 provide an administrative hearing to a person found ineligible for
 37 services under this [subsection] subdivision because of a failure to
 38 contribute to the cost of care.

39 (3) Any person who resides in affordable housing under the assisted
 40 living demonstration project established pursuant to section 17b-347e
 41 and whose income is at or below two hundred per cent of the federal
 42 poverty level, shall not be required to contribute to the cost of care. Any
 43 person who resides in affordable housing under the assisted living
 44 demonstration project established pursuant to section 17b-347e and
 45 whose income exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty
 46 level, shall contribute to the applied income amount determined in
 47 accordance with the methodology established by the Department of
 48 Social Services for recipients of medical assistance. Any person whose

49 income exceeds two hundred per cent of the federal poverty level and
 50 who does not contribute to the cost of care in accordance with this
 51 subdivision shall be ineligible to receive services under this subsection.
 52 Notwithstanding any provision of sections 17b-60 and 17b-61, the
 53 department shall not be required to provide an administrative hearing
 54 to a person found ineligible for services under this [subsection]
 55 subdivision because of a failure to contribute to the cost of care.

56 (4) The annualized cost of services provided to an individual under
 57 the state-funded portion of the program shall not exceed fifty per cent
 58 of the weighted average cost of care in nursing homes in the state, except
 59 an individual who received services costing in excess of such amount
 60 under the Department of Social Services in the fiscal year ending June
 61 30, 1992, may continue to receive such services, provided the annualized
 62 cost of such services does not exceed eighty per cent of the weighted
 63 average cost of such nursing home care. The commissioner may allow
 64 the cost of services provided to an individual to exceed the maximum
 65 cost established pursuant to this subdivision in a case of extreme
 66 hardship, as determined by the commissioner, provided in no case shall
 67 such cost exceed that of the weighted cost of such nursing home care.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
---	--	--

Section 1	July 1, 2020	17b-342(i)
-----------	--------------	------------

Statement of Purpose:

To reduce costs and expand eligibility for the Connecticut home-care program for the elderly.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]